

CLAIMS

1. A method of attaching a load carrier fixing member to a vehicle, the method comprising applying adhesive to the vehicle roof and/or the fixing member, and attaching the fixing member to the vehicle, for subsequent attachment of a load carrier to the fixing member.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing member comprises a surface for adhering to the vehicle.
3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the surface for adhering to the vehicle is indented.
4. A method as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein the surface for adhering to the vehicle comprises at least one undercut and/or dovetail.
5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a load carrier for attaching to the load carrier fixing is a roof rail or roof rack.
6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the load carrier is attached directly to one or more fixing members.
7. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a fixing member trim finisher is attached to a non adhered side of the fixing member.
8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the fixing member trim finisher is removably attached to the fixing member.

9. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the fixing member comprises at least one gap hider.

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10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one gap hider is positioned between the fixing member and the vehicle body roof.

10 11. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the method further comprises pre-treating the vehicle, including cleaning a part of the vehicle to be worked on, and/or the use of an abrasive material.

15 12. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the fixing member is secured in position using one or more locating members, which is/are shaped to hold the fixing member in the required position relative to the vehicle roof to receive a load carrier.

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13. A kit for fitting a load carrier fixing to a vehicle, the kit comprising a fixing member as defined in any one of the preceding claims, and adhesive.

25 14. A fixing member for a vehicle load carrier attachment comprising an adhesive receiving portion and a load carrier fixing portion, wherein the load carrier fixing portion is operable to receive a fixing element of the vehicle load carrier attachment.

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15. A fixing member as claimed in claim 14, wherein the adhesive receiving portion incorporates at least one recess adapted to receive adhesive.

16. A fixing member as claimed in claim 14 or 15, wherein the adhesive receiving portion is a locating portion having roof engaging projections, which are operable to
5 locate the locating portion relative to a roof recess.

17. A method of securing a vehicle load carrier to a vehicle roof using adhesive and mechanical attachment to the vehicle roof.